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(71) Applicant (<i>for all designated States except US</i>): HORMOS MEDICAL OY LTD. [FI/FI]; Tykistökatu 6 A, FIN-20520 Turku (FI)			
(72) Inventors; and		Published	
(75) Inventors/Applicants (<i>for US only</i>): KOULU, Markku [FI/FI]; Kotikatu 4 B 8, FIN-20700 Turku (FI). KARVONEN, Matti [FI/FI]; Kaskenkatu 11 C 54, FIN-20700 Turku (FI). PESONEN, Ullamari [FI/FI]; Luodikkokuja 6, FIN-20900 Turku (FI). UUSITUPA, Matti [FI/FI]; Vätilahdentie 10, FIN-70260 Kuopio (FI).		<i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>	
(74) Agent: TURUN PATENTTITOIMISTO OY; P.O. Box 99, FIN-20521 Turku (FI)			

(54) Title: **DIAGNOSIS OF A PERSON'S RISK FOR DEVELOPING ATHEROSCLEROSIS OR DIABETIC RETINOPATHY**

(57) Abstract

The invention relates to methods for diagnosing a person's susceptibility for having an increased risk for the development of atherosclerosis and a diabetic person's susceptibility for having an increased risk for the development of diabetic retinopathy. The invention relates further to methods for treating persons diagnosed for having increased risk for the development of said diseases. The invention also concerns methods to investigate or screen pharmaceuticals or genetic aims useful in the treatment of said diseases, by using an animal model including a transgenic animal. The methods of the invention are based on Leucine 7 to proline 7 polymorphism in the prepro neuropeptide Y gene.